

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Media Release

F Street Reopening Project Set to Kick into High Gear

LAS VEGAS – The \$13.6 million F Street Reopening project will enter a significant construction phase next month, with noticeable impacts on the traveling public on I-15 between Washington Avenue and the U.S. 95 exits. Lane and ramp closures and restrictions begin 7 p.m. July 14 and will run through the end of 2013. I-15 will be reduced to two lanes northbound and southbound between Lake Mead and U.S. 95. Traffic impacts will be posted on freeway message boards, NDOT's website and distributed to the media. The restrictions will help expedite completion the project.

A collaboration between the City of Las Vegas and the Nevada Department of Transportation, the F Street Connection Project will reopen F Street in its former location under Interstate 15, thus reestablishing direct access between downtown Las Vegas and the West Las Vegas community. In addition to accommodating pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular traffic, the new underpass will include a resurfacing of F Street, new sidewalks, curbs and gutter installations, decorative lighting and attractive landscaping north to Washington Avenue, along with a series of community-approved corridor panels celebrating the rich of the area known as the historic West Las Vegas.

The community's history includes the city's first integrated casino (Moulin Rouge), some of the oldest congregations in the Las Vegas Valley, a once-thriving entertainment district with Black-owned hotels and casinos, the state's first neighborhood designed by an African-American architect, among other notable. To many community members, reopening F Street opens doors to a bright economic future for the West Las Vegas neighborhood.

"NDOT is pleased that the F St. project is underway as this is an important downtown Las Vegas access point for the Westside community," NDOT Director Rudy said in a press statement. "We ask that drivers be patient, expect delays during construction and drive cautiously through the work zones on I-15 and the local streets."

NDOT Senior Project Manager Jenica Finerty praised the collaboration between NDOT, municipal and community leaders. "The project team partnered with the community to develop the project through numerous meetings. It will be very rewarding to see the finished product and realize we each had a hand in shaping the project."

After the closure of the F Street Underpass in September 2008, citizens and state officials championed legislation mandating its reopening – the bill passed in June 2009 – and directing the City of Las Vegas and NDOT to reopen the underpass. Reopening the underpass will enhance the transportation network and improve area accessibility, mobility and safety for area residents. Begun in May, construction on the reopening is expected to be complete in late Fall 2014.

NDOT strives to provide current information about construction schedules and highway and roadway restrictions and closures. Unscheduled restrictions and closures may occur and weather can impact work schedules. For the latest information on Nevada highway conditions, call 5-1-1 or log on to www.nvroads.com. For information about NDOT projects, log on to <http://bit.ly/zyyCXO>. You can also follow the department on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/ND0uSO>, on Twitter at <http://bit.ly/133lko8> and on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/12Hh66O>.

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